

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 13864 281209Z

15

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-03

H-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SS-20 NSC-10 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 SY-10 DRC-01 /124 W

----- 100432

O R 281157Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5876

INFO USINT ALGIERS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY SANAA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CPRS, PFOR, YS, UK

SUBJECT: AMERICAN CITIZEN DETAINED IN ADEN (THOMAS
EDWARD FRANKLIN)

REF: LONDON 13834

1. FCO HAS JUST PASSED US CABLE FROM ADEN SUGGESTING
CLEMENCY FOLLOWED QUIETLY BY DEPORTATION AS REAL
POSSIBILITY FOR FRANKLIN, PROVIDED REQUEST MADE IN TIME
FOR TRADITIONAL INDEPENDENCE DAY AMNESTIES NOVEMBER 30.

WE HAVE ENCOURAGED FCO TO PROVIDE ADEN APPROPRIATE
INSTRUCTIONS. FCO AGREED MORNING NOVEMBER 28 TO SEND
CABLE AUTHORIZING APPROACH TO PRESIDENT FOR CLEMENCY.

2. WE RECALL (STATE 030084) THAT FRANKLIN'S OLDER
BROTHER WAS REPORTED CRITICALLY ILL AND NEAR DEATH
LAST FEBRUARY. WHILE THERE MAY BE DANGER IN CRYING
WOLF TOO OFTEN, WE WONDER IF DEPARTMENT WISHES TO PRO-
VIDE FCO ANY ARGUMENTS BASED ON CURRENT ILLNESS OR
HARDSHIP IN FRANKLIN'S FAMILY FOR USE BY BRITISH IN
ADEN AT THEIR DISCRETION. IF SO, SUGGEST URGENT REPLY.

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3. TEXT OF LATEST ADEN CABLE AS FOLLOWS:

"WE HAVE JUST HEARD FROM DEFENCE LAWYER AT TRIAL, MR. MODY, THAT IN CONVERSATION WITH TRIAL JUDGE AND PROSECUTION LAWYER BOTH HAVE SAID THAT FRANKLIN COULD EXPECT TO BE RELEASED SOON. LATTER SAID QUOTE WHY DOES NOT BRITISH EMBASSY SEND A NOTE FOR CLEMENCY TO PRESIDENT UNQUOTE.

"WE CONSIDER THAT THESE BROAD HINTS INDICATE THAT A DECISION HAS BEEN MADE QUIETLY TO DEPORT FRANKLIN AND THAT IT WOULD HELP LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO HAVE A PEG TO HANG THIS DECISION ON. PEGS COULD BE PETITION FOR MERCY FROM BRITISH AND FACT THAT INDEPENDENCE DAY, 30 NOVEMBER, IS A TRADITIONAL TIME FOR AMNESTIES TO BE GRANTED. WE RECOMMEND THAT WE ARE AUTHORISED TO APPROACH PRESIDENT FOR CLEMENCY.

"URGENT REPLY REQUESTED TO ENABLE NOTE TO REACH AUTHORITIES IN TIME FOR A DECISION TO BE MADE BY INDEPENDENCE DAY."

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: mcintyresh
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